

**SSB 6444 - S AMD 210**

By Senators Zarelli and Tom

NOT ADOPTED 2/27/2010

1 On page 88, after line 21, insert the following:

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3 "(21) By December 1, 2010, the department shall analyze the costs  
4 to the state of in-home caregivers. This shall include the cost  
5 differential to the state in-home care program from utilizing  
6 caregivers employed by a homecare agency compared with those working  
7 as individual providers and, as a separately analyzed group, the costs  
8 of family member providers. The analysis shall consider the  
9 differential in hourly Medicaid reimbursement rates between the agency  
10 providers and the individual providers including but not limited to  
11 administrative costs to the department, utilization of authorized  
12 hours, and utilization of health care benefits by home care providers.  
13 The department shall report on the impact of the department's labor  
14 agreements, since the inception of collective bargaining for homecare  
15 workers, on the state's cost for homecare worker wages, benefits and  
16 health insurance benefits. The department shall include in this  
17 analysis the effect of indirect costs to the state of individual  
18 versus agency caregivers, including the costs associated with tort  
19 liability, costs associated with providing interpreters, the incidence  
20 of Medicaid and other forms of payment fraud, and the eligibility of  
21 the caregiver for full or partial government paid benefits."

22 EFFECT: Requires a cost study of the cost differential between  
23 caregivers employed by a homecare agency and those working as  
24 individual providers. No fiscal impact.  
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